

young. The bird remained perfectly motionless, with her head cocked to one side, watching me intently with her right eye for the several minutes I watched her. She was carrying a grasshopper nymph in her bill. The young were apparently not aware of the parent bird's presence for they made no acknowledgement of it.

As the bird was fully conscious during the time it was under observation and followed with her eye slight movements that I made, it is apparent that the behaviour observed was a case of protective freezing and not one of paralysis from fear. It is possible and even likely that this freezing reaction would have been followed by the "broken wing trick" had I moved closer or attempted to touch the bird.

—D. L. McINTOSH, Perth.

White-naped Honeyeater at University Grounds.—On October 1, 1953, an unusual call attracted my attention to a honeyeater at the University grounds, Nedlands. At the time a Red-tipped Pardalote's nest was being inspected, and from the jarrah canopy came a "clicking" sound, somewhat like the call of an agitated New Holland Honeyeater. A clear view was had of the birds which proved to be the White-naped Honeyeater (*Mclithreptus lunatus*). The black head, with a white band around the back of it, was noted. On calling it up to about six feet, by kissing the back of my hand, it was noticed that a small patch above the eye was conspicuously pure white. Apart from this colour, the bird tallied exactly with the description in Serventy and Whittell's *Handbook*.

In habit this bird differed from other honeyeaters in the University grounds. It was seen in a jarrah tree, hopping around the outer branches, in the manner of a Pardalote, stopping now and then to feed. The common local honeyeaters, the Brown and the New Holland, only use this tree as a resting place in flight.

—ERIC LINDGREN, Nedlands.

[The late O. H. Lipfert recorded the White-naped Honeyeater at Crawley during the 'nineties of the last century, it being abundant there and nesting freely (*The Emu*, vol 37, 1937, p. 133). Since those early observations the species has not been reported in the area until Mr. Lindgren's record.—Ed.]

Birds Dew Bathing.—The following records of apparent dew bathing may prove of interest. (a) Wooroloo. June 5, 1951. At about 0900 hrs. a Red Wattle-bird, *Anthochaera carunculata*, was observed making a considerable flutter among the extremities of branches, i.e. twigs too weak to support its weight. In all it visited several different branches in three different trees, the last a lemon-scented gum (*Eucalyptus citriodora*) where, after fluttering in one mass of leaves, the bird perched and preened, more or less confirming the impression that the bird had been bathing in the moisture that lay thick upon the leaves. The trees visited